CNN - OKLAHOMA CITY BOMBING MEMORAIAL SERVICE (4-23-1995)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE)

Uploaded by DANNOTCH'S NEWSVIDEOS (https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7X0LKts7k4FT498Id_x5sg) on Mon Sep 20 2021.

From Sunday, April 23rd, 1995 CNN Coverage of the Oklahoma City bombing memorial. President Bill Clinton and Dr. Billy Graham were among the many speakers.

From Wikipedia: The Oklahoma City bombing was a domestic terrorist truck bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, United States, on Wednesday, April 19, 1995. Perpetrated by anti-government extremists Timothy McVeigh and Terry Nichols, the bombing happened at 9:02 am and killed at least 168 people,[2] injured more than 680 others, and destroyed more than one-third of the building, which had to be demolished.

00:00:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE)

is shared by all of us i'm amazed please continue sir i'm amazed because of the fact i'm an outsider i'm from pennsylvania myself and the response has just been absolutely superbly organized well the organization is quite evident but people who have relatives inside that building are still hoping and one of the one of the relatives we're hearing applause and people inside the fairgrounds arena here are standing up and [Applause] they are standing and cheering and applauding because the rescue workers who have been working the mirror office building some of them are filing into the arena and they deserve that applause also there with you is victor eves he is the uncle of a missing nephew uh mr eaves can you tell us about your nephew does he hear me [Music] okay father you were saying they deserve this applause [Music] bruce morton because that was a very electric moment here just a few seconds ago as we were talking with our guests here uh some of the search and rescue workers came in to take their seats and people just started standing up applauding

00:02:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=120s)

started standing up applauding well that's got to be the hardest thing of all don't you think uh hope keeps dwindling and yet if you have some relative missing obviously you don't abandon hope you hang on you hang on again but everybody knows with every day the odds lengthened these people have worked very hard under very difficult conditions and probably everybody in that hole is warning someone and and is grateful for the workers who've just come in we were alluding to a man victor eve's uh are you with us now mr eaves yes i am tell us about your nephew um he's eight months old he's been going to daycare a little less than two weeks and he's missing we we haven't heard anything about them finding the body we just we don't know anything at this point where i'm wondering now since this is the fifth day of this tragedy i'm wondering now where is your level of hope it's kind of hard to walk by faith with a sight as bad as the one behind me um we kind of got to use common sense and right now we're just kind of waiting to to have a body that's identified how how is tyler's mother your sister handling this um it's kind of hard to describe um the first there was a sense of hope and that's just kind of coming to terms with it and it's still kind of like a it's really like a big denial stage when i look at the building behind me i can't believe that it's the building that that i once saw and so it's just it's kind of like we kind of pass into some of the denial we're understanding what what the possibilities of him living is and we're just going to go from there

00:04:03 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=243s)

did did your sister bring her son tyler to the to the nursery wednesday morning yes she did and where were you when you heard initially what happened and where was your sister and what what did you try to do well my sister was at work and it happened like 35 minutes after she dropped him off and um there were so many rumors that that arose that we really didn't know which building it was but um i think one of the rumors that it was the ymca building and she knew that that was very very close to the to the federal building and um she panicked and how soon were you able to get to her side um it's probably between an hour and 30 minutes and two hours of the bomb of the actual blast and there was a lot of confusion on the streets after that because the ymca also has a nursing center where children are dropped off in the morning it's true well we thank you for coming over to this to this site i know it is an awful reminder you've alluded to it twice in our conversation to turn around and to look at that building and to remember what it looked like before nine o'clock uh wednesday morning before we leave you sir is there anything you would like to say to the people who have been following development people not only outside of the state but across the united states and around the world i would like to say thank you for your heart efforts and uh it lets people like me feel real good to know that we got people like that in america that care and come out and spend their time and

00:06:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=360s)

and come out and spend their time and the energy to to help us um get through this whole thing and i just like to say thanks to all the people victor eves thank you very much for joining us as we leave you the president of the united states aboard air force one which is in its final approach the president mrs clinton the white house party and staff will be underground very very shortly here in oklahoma city so [Music] my father had been working in here before i was eight when i was fifteen he said nice job he's not a talker a few months ago his hands started hurting you know on and off well he'd get by but not without taking a lot of pills sometimes in a day well we decided to call our doctor he said check out a leave he said for sewing dad's eggs two leaves is it the entire day one every 12 hours this one's up to six a day and that one's eight i could tell he was worried the pain would come back i said fine old cars the one thing old habits another to cut a long story short two leaves is all he takes all he needs well we'll have him on my draw tools by the end of the century you working today believe all day strong all day long he peered down into the rugged landscape of kellogg's low-fat granola and paused almost afraid to disturb all those massive formations of flavor but that's what he'd come for to dig in setting loose a whole avalanche in taste tumbling clumps of rolled oats brown

00:08:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=481s)

tumbling clumps of rolled oats brown sugar and raisins cast into rivers of milk and great clumps of wheat and almonds dashed against cinnamon shores now this is a loud left tasty kellogg's low-fat granola get a taste of it american families have made their choice once again they've chosen the buick le saber as family circle magazine's family car of the year for reasons like safety dependability performance and style american families chose the saber as family car of the year over every other sedan foreign or domestic buick le saber the american family family car i'm lauren sydney next week former king of the ring mike tyson sees his life story hit the tube also director john carpenter remakes the thriller village of the dam that showbiz today at 10 30 pm eastern on cnn [Music] at the arena here in oklahoma city by the hundreds they continue filing in receiving a rose and if their family members they receive a yellow rose corsage and if among this audience there are parents who lost children in the tragedy they receive teddy bears the president of the united states arrived a short while ago touching down air force one at tinker air force base and it's in my mind the fact that within 48 hours difference someone else arrived at teaker air force base timothy mcveigh who is in federal custody being held in the city 27 miles west of this arena there are late developments this

00:10:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=601s)

there are late developments this afternoon in this case frank sesno is in washington thanks very much bernie well while people are mourning in oklahoma city across the nation a massive manhunt continues to be underway for those believed to be responsible for the bombing several hours ago a man identified as david iniguez was taken into custody in san bernadino california according to senior law enforcement officials here

in washington there had been an outstanding arrest warrant for renegades for desertion quoting one official now we had an interest in him he's somebody of interest to us in connection to the bombing asked if it would be correct or incorrect to call iniguez a suspect this official says it would be correct to call him a suspect he hastened to add however that they are still looking for suspect number two the man identified in that composite photo rather composite sketch some days ago as john doe number two you see him here on your screen described as a white male of medium build five nine to five ten a hundred and seventy five to 180 pounds with brown hair a tattoo on his left arm now this very senior law enforcement official i spoke with went out of his way to say that one reason they wanted to get this message out was because he did not want anyone letting down their guard uh with any information they may have to call the fbi's hotline number the fbi's hotline number of 1 1-800-905-1514 enormous and invaluable information has come across this number in the past several days this official said and they are counting on it for more information at this time again john doe number two is still being sought and law enforcement officials are very eager for the information and for the word to go forth that the public can still be of enormous help bernie that is the very latest we have here from washington where the uh fbi and other law enforcement officials are focusing uh all all of all their manhunt activities across the

[00:12:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=720s)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=720s)

their manhunt activities across the nation while you've got the grieving and the remembering there in in oklahoma city thank you frank just seconds ago as you were concluding that report the choir came in the canterbury choir people taking their seats the filing in continues at the other side where you've seen some of our guests is another minister here in oklahoma city the reverend jim tucker of the hillcrest christian church you are doing a lot of work at the the coping side can you tell us about the coping site well i'm just one of the many volunteers that are there at the site they're volunteers of all kinds and what what are you doing all of you well it's a multifaceted operation they intake people in they try to meet the needs of the people of the families who are coming in who have lost members and they try to match them up with mental health workers and ministers and other military chaplains and other officials to try to somehow meet this need and to help them through this horrible loss what are some of the needs the basic need is just to have human contact and we're finding that the families are making great contact with each other and they're deriving tremendous power from just being together and sharing their loss together reverend tucker how do you comfort someone who has lost a husband a wife a child well there's there's no magic words you know people have asked me because i've dealt with death and loss throughout my career in the ministry and people always ask me say what do you say there's nothing you can say what you have to do is just be a presence to people you have to recognize their their suffering and their humanness and just be there for whatever they need whether it be for

[00:14:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=841s)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=841s)

they need whether it be for to hold their hand but just to be another human presence with them is the main thing [Music] the work being done by the search and rescue people has been intense it has been long we heard today that they're going back on 12 hours on 12 hours off shifts what are they saying to you as they come off this pile of rubble well two of the firefighters who have been working on this site belong to our church and i spoke with both of their wives this morning at service and i told them how much we were praying for them and supporting them in this heroic effort but what they're reporting to me as far as what they're seeing is i couldn't describe it to you i don't know that there's exact words in the english language that can do that it's like nothing they've ever seen before what are you personally hoping uh everyone not just oklahomans but people elsewhere across the united states will leave this day and leave this service with well many of the people my feeling about many of the people here in the city is is that as the president said a tremendously evil act has been perpetrated on us and we have suffered a loss that we cannot replace but uh people here in oklahoma and here in oklahoma city have a tremendous faith in god and faith in each other and they have pulled together in unbelievable ways and we are not going to let this evil overcome us and we are not going to let this loss shake our faith in god and in each other well if you look at the faces here in the arena certainly what you've just said the resolve the faces communicate that that's that's correct you get and

that has been something i'm a stranger to the state i am a westerner from illinois but that is something that i sensed immediately wolf blitzer bruce morton and i were discussing that a short while ago yes i've only been here a year and a half i've lived in california washington

00:16:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=961s)

half i've lived in california washington dc denver minneapolis and the people here have impressed me thoroughly i've never seen a tougher people a stronger people a more caring bunch of people and i've heard many people say around the country that they are taking what happened here personally well we definitely are taking it personally here and we are banding together uh differences between us have dissolved and we're united in a common purpose to help the the families and to to rebuild our city and to reflect again the values of faith and family and community that that we all believe in here in oklahoma two words resolved in faith why do they stick in my mind when i think about oklahomans well you know the bible belt has quite a reputation on both coasts and unless you come and live among these people you can't say that you really know them and when you live with them and work with them and cry with them they impress you with their strength the depth of their character the level of faith and god that they have is i think it's a witness that's coming across the people not only here but across the country and all over the world in the people that i've talked to i'm looking over the program that has been created by those who planned this kathy keaney the wife of the governor keating of oklahoma and uh reverend tucker i know you're aware of some of the things that are going to happen here this afternoon there's going to be a musical prelude by joyce brooke we're going to hear from the canterbury congregation choir and we're going to hear throughout this program from the oklahoma philharmonic remarks from the mayor ron norrick the reverend billy graham they're going to be prayers and pawns read we're going to hear so much that appeals to the spirit and to the soul that's that's correct and that's what our people need now

00:18:03 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=1083s)

well reverend tucker thanks so much for joining us thank you and we appreciate your interest in us and we ask for people's continued support and prayers and everyone that i've talked to and i echo this we are incredibly grateful for the response that we've received from around the country and around the world in material goods and spiritual support and prayer and we ask people to just please continue because we still have a long job and a long road ahead of us and thank you you're welcome sir the reverend jim tucker of the hillcrest christian church here in oklahoma city bruce morton wolf blitzer right after the bomb exploded on wednesday morning some eyewitnesses reportedly saw at least two men who appeared to be middle eastern in appearance that was reported around the world and people who are arabs people of arab descent reacted to that with apprehension and as the investigation went on it became apparent there were no people of middle eastern descent one jordanian american was brought back to the united states in question and released never was under arrest you know bernie and bruce uh as i see the people walking in and have a chance to see these individuals fill up this huge arena i do spot some people who appear to be of middle eastern ancestry and there is a large muslim community here in oklahoma city in oakland in oklahoma as well and you can only sympathize you can only try to sympathize with what they must have gone through during those first 48 hours when so much of the suspicion did fall on people of arab ancestry people from the middle east which of course was inaccurate and they were tormented they were harassed and it's heartwarming to see some of them now joining us in this arena to attend

00:20:02 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=1202s)

now joining us in this arena to attend this event and i'm sure everyone in oklahoma indeed everyone in the united states must say to themselves how awful it would have been to rush to those kinds of conclusions when of course they were baseless bros i think bernie you know in a funny way it might have been easier for americans to understand all this had there been an outside enemy of some sort you know we're in a sense we're used to that we have the soviet union during the cold war everybody talks about middle east terrorists and uh you can look and say well those are the bad guys over there this in a sense is much harder because

americans are being asked to look within our own society and say part of us part of our own people are people sick enough bent out of shape enough to do this kind of terrible thing most americans don't know very much about these shadowy anti-government groups militias or whatever they're called you read about them you hear about them every once in a while but they're not part of our daily life and it's really going to be an effort i think for people to look inside and say what in our country is so wrong to have produced this kind of really random shameless hate you know if i could just add one thing bernie and bruce what really hits home is when you can identify with locations where people are from timothy mcveigh the 27 year old suspect john doe number one arrested now charged with the conspiracy in this plot to blow up the federal building it's from a suburb of buffalo new york you know bernie i'm from buffalo new york myself he's from just outside of lockport new york a place called pendleton and when you hear that you say to yourself what happens somebody grows up in an area where you grew up where i grew up at least and you you begin to it drives home that these things happen that there are these people for some reason that we don't know if he's guilty he's obviously innocent until he's proven guilty but

00:22:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=1320s)

innocent until he's proven guilty but he's accused of this act uh and you can only wonder what could have created a mindset that would have resulted in this tragedy yeah it's just a feeling you know the the kids in my high school all seemed pretty normal and all of a sudden you have to come to terms with something like this and that that's hard also hard is getting over this reluctance to look into our national mirror we're going to have to look into our national mirror because there are things going on within our borders that obviously we were not aware of before we pause for a moment i want to go to one other thing about the reporting of the people of middle eastern uh dissent the news media initially when that was said reported that that had to be reported it had to be reported bernie because the federal authorities involved had some suspicions there were there have been other terrorist incidents involving middle easterners but moreover weren't there eyewitnesses on the ground in oklahoma city who said that that at least two people who appeared to be of middle eastern origin were seen that's running from the building there were those eyewitnesses and i'm sure that in the post-mortem of this there will be a lot of criticism of the news media they're already already handled the way we handle it all of the national news media organizations but as of course as all of us know and bruce you know it as well as any of us that we're just reporting what we hear from reliable sources and if if the secretary of defense william perry says publicly that the pentagon has dispatched as details to the fbi arabic language interpreters to help in this investigation we can only assume they're looking for people who speak arabic so it's you can blame the news media for perhaps being a bit irresponsible but you can't blame us completely well i don't know about irresponsibility uh we've had uh spokesman for arab american organizations on cnn who obviously have expressed outrage

00:24:02 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=1442s)

obviously have expressed outrage and that is a part of the story initially but in the initial hours of the bomb blast if you have eyewitnesses who are making statements you're reporting what those statements are and in a relatively telescope period of time in scenes in hebrews we were able to come right to the point and establish the fact that there were no middle eastern people or people arab americans involved in this initially according to reports and the investigation has moved on i think the news media got over that pretty quickly and and to be fair one of the things we all learned you certainly did bernie you certainly did wolf 100 years ago when we were local reporters was eyewitnesses can get it wrong about it you just have to go back to covered traffic accidents to learn that but i think everybody made a a serious good-faith effort to get this right and arab americans were right to be sensitive they've been victimized before but this came out pretty evenly i think cnn's live coverage of this day of healing and this national day of mourning will continue we're here in the arena services are less than 40 minutes away from beginning [Music] you have been a very very busy professional have you not yes we have we have been visiting with people uh we have been uh working with folks we've been taking telephone calls we've been meeting with businesses and with groups ms lanker how

do you manage to keep yourself personally organized as well as your staff doing what you've been doing so tirelessly since last wednesday morning well i happen to have a husband who's a former public relations person and a writer and he's been taking care of me while i take care of everyone else but i

00:26:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=1561s)

while i take care of everyone else but i think everyone just pulls together at a time like this at baptist hospital how many survivors do you have and how are you handling them they are handling them as individual cases of course and i think there were not that many taken to baptist hospital it's my impression that only two are now still in the hospital there many people were treated and released [Music] and and what is the status with the two there uh how are there i think that i think their condition is is fair what kinds of injuries did they sustain do you recall i really don't know i've been working with families and children of families i'm a mental health professional so my job has been to work with them on coping and the emotional sides of what's going on i'm curious about something have you been able to establish once and for all how many children were in the nursery on the second floor uh i remember it seems to me that i heard a figure of around 200. no no i mean children in the nursery uh children in the nursery that's and that's a number that i heard that were in the second k on the on the second floor of the day care center uh of the daycare said i understood that that normally the maximum would be 41 but i i was told that not more than 31 children were there okay and i do not know that information okay but but you are talking to family members who have lost a child who was taken we're talking to family members who have lost a child we're talking to uh red cross volunteers and media people that have covered this with you know they're dealing with tremendous pain that they absorb from other people from the survivors and for the folks who are waiting what is the hardest part for you when you're talking to a mother to a father to an uncle to an aunt to a brother to a sister of one of the

00:28:03 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=1683s)

to a brother to a sister of one of the kids who lost his or her life i think the most difficult thing may be for us to say nothing i think at a time like this words do not matter they're not important and there isn't any right thing to say and so i think the most important thing we do is to hold them and to listen to them as they talk about what's what they're feeling and what their fears are what their angers about so our job is really listeners it's not to find right words right now because there are none do you find a change in their moods or their attitudes five days later uh they're they're shutting down for the most part some anger has come up as people have been arrested because now we have a place to really focus that anger but many of them who are still waiting of course will cling very silently cling to that hope that somebody may still survive you've been around the search and rescue men and women you've been around the doctors you've heard assessments and you know yourself about the fact that the longer this situation exists it's five days now and given the the horrible weather yesterday is there really much hope on the part of professionals from everything that i hear there really is not much hope and yet nobody is going to say that every now and then miracles do happen well charlotte line for obviously we're all hoping for miracles and i thank you for joining us this afternoon thank you for having me you're welcome matt we are about 25 minutes away from this service getting underway bruce well you know if we could just tie up one other loose end that we were talking about earlier bernie and and bruce i'm looking at the schedule the uh the itinerary the program for the events and there will be religious leaders here as we all know of course the reverend billy graham will

00:30:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=1801s)

course the reverend billy graham will deliver a religious message dr rod masteller who's the pastor of the putnam city baptist church here in oklahoma city we'll be here pastor carlton pearson of the higher dimension ministries of tulsa rabbi david pakman of temple bennett israel here in oklahoma city and the most reverend beltran the archbishop of the catholic arch diocese of oklahoma city one thing is missing though bernie you know and it may be an oversight but it would have been a good idea i think if they would have had a muslim this representative of the islamic faith here especially because of what we were discussing earlier the accusations that were made against people of middle eastern ancestry arabs and of course of the islamic

faith i think that would have been a poignant moment if somebody uh of islamic background would have had an opportunity to deliver a prayer here from the koran as well as from the other major faiths and quite possibly the absence of of such a person could be uh because of uh sheer innocence with with no no intent i'm sure it was but it would have been it is an oversight i think bruce one other thing bernie a lot of people will find childish in religion of course but the other thing you can sort of see happening in the hole there as you look at those pictures is the sense of community people hugging each other people holding hands and i think in a larger sense that's probably true all around the country you find that after natural disasters you find it after a hurricane a flood or an earthquake in all over the country people are reaching out to the people in oklahoma city i don't know that that helps you deal with loss but at least you know that you are part of a community you know that you are part of the country and you know that there's a lot of sympathy going on a lot of sympathy and there's a lot going on as the president united states and the first lady went their way in a

00:32:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=1920s)

first lady went their way in a presidential motorcade from tinker air force base over here to the arena and as people pile in and sit very efficiently waiting woke inside this arena at the federal murrah building the digging continues you know a few moments ago when we saw some of the search and rescue workers come in and there was a standing ovation now this auditorium this arena is almost filled earlier it was it was about half built they they they there was an outburst of applause people stood up these workers these search and rescue workers not only have to go do the grim work of finding bodies and parts of bodies but it's also people don't realize how dangerous it is to simply go into that structure which is so flimsy right now yeah they're risking their lives every second that they go into that uh that what it can only be described as a tomb indeed i've used that word too sam gonzalez is listening to what you've just said he's the police chief of the city chief it was pretty perilous at one point when that piece of concrete mass was dangling i understand they removed it uh yes sirs i understand they did when did that happen uh when did the concrete come loose i'm not exactly sure sometime this morning okay have you been to the site i i assume you have yes sir i've been to the site several times i was there early on wednesday morning when it occurred uh and have been down there several times okay uh if you've been today can you give our viewers an update on on what you saw and what is happening well the fire chief is in control of going in to the building and we have let him run that operation a thousand thoughts must be over the racist of making sure the perimeter she's about to meet the two men making sure that the people who need to get in have the ability to get in and have

00:34:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=2040s)

have the ability to get in and have access in and out i'm wondering um i'd heard a fireman say that they've gone back to working 12 hours on 12 off that's the fire department what's the arrangement for your men and and your women on your force we've been working 12 on and 12 off at the perimeter since about 11 o'clock on wednesday morning our operational people who are still answering calls for service and doing the things we need to for the city are still uh they're also on an emergency schedule chief gonzales talk to us about something that i suppose people who are not in oklahoma city would view it as a phenomenon but after this disaster occurred wednesday morning until now i've had people remark about the fact that there has not been a disorder there has not been any looting there's not been any lawlessness there have been very few arrests for drunken driving or walking this is not surprising to you is it no sir it's not uh first off talk to us about that first off the citizens of oklahoma city the citizens of oklahoma uh would not take advantage of a tragedy like this by coming in to do any looting uh second very early on because of the organizational culture of the oklahoma city police department we established a crime scene we established perimeters and we have maintained control of it since very early wednesday morning [Music] though obviously we're concentrating on that building because of the hope everyone has that uh somehow people can be pulled from there alive notwithstanding the way time has gone by beyond where you are over a 10 block

00:36:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=2160s)

beyond where you are over a 10 block radius you have more than 75 buildings that have sustained structural damage and that are quarter north that is correct not only have they sustained damage but there is a possibility that they contain evidence from the explosion that the fbi needs to recover so you're still out looking for evidence the fbi is yes sir as they can they release portions of it back to us and then as we can we will release it back to the citizens well let me be nuts and bolts with you if i can for a moment i i'm certain that the need has not gone away i think yesterday when i left work here last night the call was for wheelbarrows and uh rubber steel toe shoes and their soles reinforced do you have any needs now are you asking for any other materials none that i'm aware of the community has and the nation has been extremely supportive every need we have had has been responded to immediately and has been met one last question what are you telling the women and men on your force as they work under the strain of this tragedy and this loss i'm telling them how extremely proud i am of them and of the job that they are doing i i cannot think of any response that they could have made that would have been better than what they have done they are doing an extremely good job under extremely terrible circumstances chief sam gonzalez oklahoma city police department thank you very very much for taking the time to talk with us and you might be interested in knowing uh 12 000 people are inside this arena and one of your colleagues the fire marshals has said stop hold it that's enough no more no more can get in chief thanks for joining us bruce wolfe

[00:38:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=2280s)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=2280s)

bruce wolfe well bernie i'm sure there'll be a few exceptions to that no more can get in edict i see some empty seats down in the front there and i'll bet you the white house party gets in without a whole lot of fuss oh no without a whole lot of fuss you know the uh people are still getting in and uh i do see a few empty seats around here i'm sure this place will be filled by the within the hour within the next 15-20 minutes when this program is supposed to begin it we're told by the way it will be about an hour and 45 minutes and could stretch into a two-hour program with all of the presentations a lot of music a lot of choirs and a lot of remarks uh on behalf of the various uh people who will be participating here but it's it's going to be a very moving ceremony by by all accounts and i'm sure that once some of the family members and some of those who have survived this ordeal are introduced that will bring many many people to tears mark schwartz is the oklahoma city councilman one of them he had a hand in setting up the president's visit today here at this arena councilman hello how are you i'm uh hills and valleys we're doing okay you're doing okay i suppose uh with president uh within uh minutes from stepping inside this arena you've not had much slip sleep over the past 24 hours no i'd say since wednesday one of the problems is when you spend so much time down at the site here and then with the presidential visit by the time i get home it's midnight and then i start looking at the tv to see what else is going on uh it's it's obviously been a very difficult period but to work with setting up the presidential team has been an honor and a pleasure and i'm very honored that he's come here uh he mobilized forces obviously so quickly to help us out and we're really quite thankful for what he's done how do you go about doing this with what's going on as as we speak right now search and rescue operators are still

[00:40:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=2400s)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=2400s)

search and rescue operators are still going through the wreckage of this building and you have people go ahead please well i i think your point is well taken but it's very difficult obviously with the resources we have committed here at the site uh the governor's wife kathy keating wanted to do this it was it was truly a wonderful idea and i think it was it is helpful to the community and and the state and i believe the nation and our resources uh we needed more and i will tell you when i was down at the arena earlier i just got over here to see police officers from from communities as far as two hours away to come in and assist with with the policing that we need on the perimeter the turnout has been tremendous from the communities in this state and the nation the problems continue here but i think today's prayer service is going to be of great help to not only people in oklahoma city but the nation as well and you see the thousands that are turning out there i'd like to ask you about something that's very important to a city and that's it's it's ledger we're talking with chief gonzalez about the uh 10 block radius 75 plus businesses that have been shut down the obvious damage here in your great city how are you going to cope with this there are there are a number of buildings obviously that are that are clearly going to come down in addition to the to the federal building to the damage

that took place uh i will tell you that the people who live in in this great state in this great city we will rebuild uh i've talked with several members of the congressional delegation you know the federal building will happen and the people in this community will rebuild there is a spirit in this city and a spirit that has developed throughout the state in this nation and frankly throughout the world that i've seen that we will do whatever it takes to rebuild downtown and the portions that have been damaged uh we will remember those that we have lost but life will go on with the spirit of oklahoma without any

00:42:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=2521s)

the spirit of oklahoma without any question i was um in my hotel room about three o'clock in the morning and one of the local stations had the designer on in fact i'd interviewed him a day before and the man who designed the albert p murr federal office building and he was of a mind that there was still enough structural integrity in this building obviously not what's been damaged but elsewhere to the point that part of it could be salvaged uh i gather over the past 24 hours that the thought is that this building will come down in its entirety and be replaced that that's the consensus that i've heard from a lot of people uh this i really think we're beyond the issue of the structure capability uh my concern obviously is getting our getting concluding rescue efforts and getting our people out with the hazards that exist there i talked with congressman iztok just about an hour and a half ago and we talked about this issue his perspective and the congressional delegation is that that building probably needs to come down and be replaced mark schwartz how long do you think that this this sad rescue operation will continue in this building uh gary mars our fire chief who's doing a superb job here and told me just yesterday that he probably anticipated the potential to go through wednesday or thursday it's a very slow and tedious process the extrication is difficult we we had a obviously a lot of slow up yesterday the weather with the rain was a great hindrance because the footing was very slippery and very dangerous for these rescue teams and i think maybe sometime in the middle of this week later the week part of it plays with the fbi it's a crime scene that they control in that regard and we've got to make sure that they get all bits of evidence that they've got to have so hopefully sometime midweek or by the end of the week hopefully they'll be done with that process and we're told that um some of the federal functions of post office and

00:44:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=2640s)

federal functions of post office and what have you will be up and going as early as tomorrow yeah most of the agencies have stated that they've had the ability to regroup already they've sent in contingency groups uh from atf and secret service uh social security uh has already rewired their numbers and uh with the exception of a few applications that were on file everything should be in pretty good shape unfortunately the reality is we have had in uh in our nation the the worst tragedy and cowardice act that we have ever witnessed but that will not stop this community or this nation from coming back and doing what we have to do and i think the one thing that has been proven by the citizens in this city and the whole country when you look at the help and the resources that are here right now that spirit will continue and we'll we'll do these things and it we will struggle through it and and when we have these hills and valleys i've met uh when i was over at the arena just a little while ago uh kathy siloski a friend of mine and she she went down and got a cup of coffee last wednesday and in the fourth floor in the southwest corner of that building and i got i got to hug her this morning and and it felt great because she made it but there are many of her friends and our friends that didn't and we don't know that toll yet and we're just going to continue to fight and struggle to make sure that this community does what it has to do and i that my colleagues across the country that have called and my friends have been so supportive and i think we're going to do it and i think if you've seen the spirit of the people here since you've been in town it's tough it's tough but i'll tell you everybody's working hand in hand and we're going to do it tell me something inside this arena it's obvious that the the effort to prepare for this afternoon which gets underway officially in 10 minutes has been utterly intense what were some of the special things you sought to do here well obviously we had to marshal a lot of resources on on friday itself there

00:46:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=2761s)

of resources on on friday itself there was another show in there and the floor that you see was totally covered with several inches of dirt we got the dirt out on friday and we started bringing in resources from from parks from the myriad convention center everything we needed to do to get physically placed in there the white house folks advanced team the secret service everybody has done what they had to do we worked on a very intense schedule i was fortunate enough to be able to put together assist with the presidential motorcade i made phone calls on friday night i had them all lined up uh and done in in a period of an hour it's just been work hard and don't get much sleep well the work that you did on that motorcade is coming to fruition because the president of the united states is uh virtually on the fairgrounds and he will be entering the hall i misspoke just a moment ago i said that we were about 10 minutes away from beginning uh one of our executive producers bob fernand reminds me that the ceremony is an hour and 51 minutes away the kind of a priest a free ceremony that will start there before the three o'clock call to prayer okay so it's really the the ceremony is an hour and ten minutes away and the capacity here mark is eleven thousand and eleven thousand people the fire marshal has turned away one thousand yeah and we've got other facilities that we're going to utilize and i think they've already started to do it for those that aren't familiar you're at the oklahoma state fairgrounds and oklahoma city and the building is the state fair arena we also have several a number of other buildings including the aaa 89er ballpark that will be utilized today for additional people we've had it wired for television and sound so everybody could participate if they couldn't get into the state fair arena i i know that uh you regret that you couldn't invite everyone but that also is an impossibility well you know it you only hold so many people and i think

[00:48:02 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=2882s)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=2882s)

you only hold so many people and i think the governor and first lady have done a great job of putting this together and we've done everything we could do to assist them and obviously we've got people across this entire world and country that are going to be watching at the same time at three o'clock mayor norrick has called for a ring of bells throughout this country and hopefully throughout the world to commemorate the moment when the prayer starts and i i think it's for such a short notice i guess the one aspect is when you get it put together there's certainly less time for things to go wrong after you've got it put together did you forget anything no uh i think you've about got it i think we've got everything in there we could get well i think we've got some 5 000 roses being handed out yes i i just showed our viewers one of the roses just a moment ago and the family members are receiving these beautiful yellow rose corsages and these teddy bears um obviously we know the symbolism behind that but these teddy bears that are going to the parents who lost children in the nursery whose idea was that i there was some organization i saw a sign down there uh when i actually when i was leaving the arena about 45 minutes ago and i don't know who that was but there is a sign down by the south entry that says who donated them and then brought them over we've had these donations you know it's kind of like if we need something and we talk to the media you tell one person i mean an hour later you've got a truck showing up with uh more than you could use for it that's been you know i think the crowd that the people that you see in that arena and i was outside when they were sweeping it uh i i saw friends i saw many people of course i didn't know but i saw on their faces something far more than just despair i saw a sign of hope and i saw a sign of people who really cared and that's why they took the time to come

[00:50:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=3000s)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=3000s)

that's why they took the time to come out today well parse this impression i have ever since i've arrived in this state shortly before midnight i think uh wednesday night i've had the feeling that i have been treated and am being treated with a kind of hospitality and spontaneity that i get from being in someone's living room well let me let me tell you i i grew up in new york uh and on long island and and i love that they're wonderful people i came down here to go to school and uh i like the people and i stayed here because the people are so wonderful i i mean my people back in new york are great my mother's still back there and a lot of friends i stayed here because what you're experiencing uh they're the most wonderful people that i've ever known in my life and when it comes to giving a helping hand you just ask i mean it is that simple and and i have never and but it is not limited to here you we treat people in oklahoma the right way but we have had from across

this nation i mean the reality is that when it comes to these kind of efforts we're rewriting the book on it right now what's taking place in oklahoma city and i'm and i'm very sad that that had to happen but if it's going to be done and the rescue is going to be done and what has to take place we're going to show the people in this world how it gets done the right way and i'm pleased that we can at least contribute in that fashion and everybody who's come in and i've heard the same comments from from federal agents from all over the country from the rescue teams that are in i mean i went up and talked to the phoenix rescue team the other day when they got here and i thank them for coming for what they're doing and and they said you know it says councilman schwartz and we're great pleased you're here and they said you know we've been all over and nobody ever thanked us like that and that's just the nature of the people here oklahoma city councilman mark schwartz we're going to leave you now but we certainly thank you for joining us my pleasure thank you and our live

[00:52:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=3120s)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=3120s)

my pleasure thank you and our live coverage will continue in a moment [Music] weeknights michael and john shake things up in washington crossfire now at a new time 8 30 eastern on cnn i believe for every drop of rain that falls a flower grows you're about to hear something special i believe that some an all-new collection by one of the world's best loved singers roger whitaker [Applause] [Music] heartland music presents roger whittaker [Music] it's impossible tell the sun to leave the sky it's just impossible my [Music] you really love

[00:54:02 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=3242s)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=3242s)

you really love [Music] [Applause] [Music] [Applause] [Music] don't cry young [Music] call seven to 1-800-257-1257 all cod charges and pay only 14.98 for records or cassettes or 19.98 for two cds plus three dollar shipping use your credit card or send check or money order to new roger whitaker po box 2919 atlanta georgia remember save cod charges by sending check or money order or use your credit card this is cnn [Music] i'm bernard shaw at the oklahoma city state fair arena we are going to have some light word for you on the massacre in rwanda but for now we're going to go first to frank sesno in washington for more information on this day as it unfolds frank thank you very much bernie here in washington and also in oklahoma of course cnn is monitoring very very closely the intense nationwide manhunt underway for others who may be implicated may be suspected in in connection with the oklahoma city bombing here's what we know up until this time earlier today fbi agents acting in san bernadino california took into custody a man identified as david iniguez he is was taken into custody on a an outstanding arrest warrant for desertion from the army however a senior

[00:56:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=3361s)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=3361s)

desertion from the army however a senior law enforcement official says and i'm quoting we had an interest in him he's somebody of interest to us in connection with the bombing this official says it would not be incorrect to call him a suspect at this time though other officials in the government and in law enforcement say he is not formally a suspect in particular no one including the first official says that he should be considered to be suspect number two that is to say john doe number two the man identified in this composite sketch a couple of days ago by the fbi described as a white male of about 5 foot 10 in stature 175 to 180 pounds with brown hair and a tattoo on his left arm law enforcement authorities say they are especially interested in saying that this man is still the subject of their manhunt because they continue to want public cooperation on the 800 number fbi hotline 1 800 1-800-905-1514 they say john doe number two whom you saw in that composite sketch a moment ago is considered armed and dangerous and he is the subject of an intensive manhunt there are at least four individuals associated with this uh with this bombing uh law enforcement officials say and their manhunt as i mentioned uh continues very intensively one other thing about david iniguez our uh producer chris platt has confirmed that he was uh missing a wall absent without leave from fort riley uh kansas as of last summer a one point to note not a suggestion of implication of guilt or anything obviously is that the truck that was traced to the to the bombing was rented from junction city kansas and a number of the

other individuals have roots running through kansas as well in custody under arrest charged with the bombing right now is timothy mcveigh mcvay there you see in the orange jumpsuit being let out by fbi and other law enforcement agents is in

00:58:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=3480s)

and other law enforcement agents is in custody now at the el reno federal correctional center 27 miles outside of oklahoma city of mcvay we know a few things today is his 27th birthday he grew up in pendleton outside of buffalo new york and graduated from star point high school he was in the military and actually served in operation desert storm also being held as material witnesses are the nichols brothers james nichols and terry lynn nichols they've been uh under uh intense scrutiny and have been questioned recently in connection with this bombing they have not been charged as far as we know with anything at this time again there you see james mcveigh he has been charged with bombing a federal building subject uh to the penalty of death the intense manhunt as we mentioned continues across the country we're told that several other locations have been targeted although we don't have any information that we can bring to you at this time in terms of exact location or what is underway again what we're being told is that the fbi and law enforcement officials continue to want public support through that 800 number with any information they believe they may have in connection to this i'm frank sesno in washington we'll continue to bring you late details on the manhunt as they become available for now though we go back to bernard shaw in oklahoma city bernie thank you frank in about 10 minutes we're going to be ending with a musical preload we're hearing organ music now but it's supposed to begin in about 10 minutes and then the memorial service here on this national day of mourning will get underway in one hour i alluded to another story involving the human family on this planet and we have some late word on what has happened in rwanda yesterday's massacre killed as many as 8 000 hutu refugees as government troops carried out a security operation soldiers of the tutsi rtf reportedly

01:00:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=3600s)

soldiers of the tutsi rtf reportedly panicked and opened fire on the thousands of hutus when these refugees rushed toward their lines the unrest continues today we cannot tell you at what level that unrest is but it is not like yesterday's massacre of eight thousand united nations troops on the scene say they are unable unable to estimate how many were killed cnn will have more on this story from rwanda at 8 00 and 10 p.m eastern time tonight wolf we heard from the head of the general services administration earlier when we came on the air and uh he was talking about the gsa office there on the on the first floor of the murrah federal office building but there were many many agencies that's right bernie there were 13 federal agencies represented in that murrah office building the veterans administration the department of transportation the social security administration the department of agriculture the department of health and human services the department of defense had an office in that building and the treasury department's bureau of alcohol tobacco and firearms was there as well as the u.s secret service which is of course run by the department of treasury as well and the irs had an office in that building yesterday as you know the president invited representatives of those 13 federal agencies and their children to the oval office where ian the first lady wanted to have a discussion with them especially how all of this is impacting our children and virtually every one of the cabinet secretaries responsible for those 13 agencies are joining the president and the first lady here today will be attending this memorial service as uh as their as representatives of their agencies to try to underscore

01:02:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=3720s)

try to underscore how horrible this is for them personally as the leaders of those various cabinet departments london souls and cnn personnel in atlanta have what you're about to see in here for the next six or seven minutes have called material from this city of tragedy to remind us of why we are here moments away from a memorial service [Music] and go first [Music] so [Music]

01:04:11 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=3851s)

[Music] [Applause] [Music] [Applause] [Music] so [Music]

01:06:14 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=3974s)

[Music] whoever is arrested or convicted let's say convicted convergence what goes through my mind i mean i wonder if children of their own and if they do how can they do this i don't i don't i don't wish for anybody to to die but i i think that they can just it's hard i mean what do you do do you do you leave the room like this do you take all the pictures down give their clothes away [Music] you don't know what to do what do you do when people ask you do you have children what do you say why do you have something my children dead what do you say you don't know what to say [Music] [Applause] [Music] [Applause] [Music]

01:08:44 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=4124s)

[Applause] [Music] [Laughter] [Applause] [Music] foreign [Music]

01:10:15 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=4215s)

[Music] to honor and obey the master was designed to be stable at speeds up to 125 miles per hour with an available v6 front wheel drive and dual airbag to honor and obey so even at 55 you can feel secure knowing you've made the right decision now the decision is even easier lease the mazda626dx for just 199 a month with a thousand down you may have made a difference in someone's life we can't tell you their name or anything about them we can't tell you that by using or being a designated driver like 80 million other americans you've made a very real contribution you see drunk driving fatalities declined by 32 percent of the last 10 years we salute america's designated drivers and we urge everyone to join you by doing what's right you're making things better a message from budweiser [Music] or you can put in slag locks the doberman of lox in the next 30 minutes your world will change and headline news

01:12:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=4321s)

your world will change and headline news will be there to report it all in the next 30 minutes headline news a whole day's news every half hour [Music] bernard sean wolf blitzer back at the oklahoma state fair arena where the memorial service is scheduled to get underway in about 43-44 minutes well if we were talking earlier about the initial reports once the bomb exploded wednesday morning the reports that a middle eastern man or two had been seen near the scene running from the scene and we talked about a jordanian american who was uh taken off a plane and sent back to the united states and he joins us here that's right uh abraham ahmad thank you very much for your you live here in oklahoma city now and you've been living here for how many years 15 years 13 years you've been living in oklahoma city tell us your story because the whole world was riveted when we we learned that a jordanian american was detained in london his baggage went on from chicago to rome you were on your way to jordan and that you were forced back to come to the united states for questioning you did it voluntarily but you were considered at that point the suspect what what what happened what happened you know i was just in the wrong time the wrong place i left oklahoma city just one hour 45 minutes after the bomb and i didn't know anything about it until i got to chicago about two or two thirty i was going through the gates where i was supposed to take the italia airline and i was watching the monitor and i saw cnn exploding in oklahoma city and since i'm from oklahoma city i have family i have friends there i just ran towards tv just to watch what's going on and after one minute after i was sitting here is the three four guys from i think the immigration and the police i don't

01:14:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=4441s)

the immigration and the police i don't know who else asked me if i can go with them and i said yeah sure they took me and they held me for about five six hours i think they thought i had a fake american because i'm from the middle east i think i didn't know how they knew i'm from oklahoma city but the first my first reaction was there is a bomb an oklahoma city there is a guy from the middle east it must be this is the guy who is behind that you know there was one question raised about what you had in your luggage can you tell us

what it was and why you had it i i had just a normal things for americans it's a normal it's not normal to take like a telephone a fax machine a video vcr to to overseas but for us because these things are very expensive electronic stuff i mean it's just a telephone a fax machine vcr the wires they've been talking about it's the wires for the vcr the fax machine and the video you were taking it to jordan yes which is where you're from but you're a united states citizen yeah and you were living you've been living here in oklahoma city for 16 years 13 years what kind of work do you do i was a technician working for seagate it's a computer company they make hard drives and there's there's nothing contoured or unusual about taking something back to where your relatives are cuban americans do it all the time and and as do other people in in other countries so what what was going through your mind in chicago then they let you go they let you continue on to london when i was in chicago i could understand you know why they are stopping me i have no problem you know they have all the right i mean this make you feel secure that they are taking very fast action this is a guy here and found out that he is from oklahoma city that's very nice they treated me well in chicago i had no problem in chicago and they apologized they said we are sorry for the unconvenient but you are clear you know you're free to go and i offered to stay

01:16:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=4560s)

you're free to go and i offered to stay in chicago i said if you think because i'm going to leave i'm fleeing the country here is my passport hold call me in chicago if you think i'm fleeing if you think i got anything to do with this just keep me here you know lock me here they said no we got nothing on you mr ahmed your concerns about stereotyping in this story and generally equating arabs and people of uh middle eastern said with terrorism yeah and that's the sad thing you know i i am here first of all to share the feeling with with with the people you know who who who lost the loved ones i know how it feels when you lose someone you love i had brother of mine dying when he was five years old he he died just natural crazy i know how it feels when when some terrible tragic things like this happen i know they really any any bomb goes off in the world the first thing most the people would think it's related to people from middle east but i want to tell you something because i am muslim i wouldn't do such a thing because i am an arab i wouldn't do such a thing this is against israel islam does not call for such a thing mr ahmed our colleague bruce morton is in washington bruce because we're configured the way we are i think i'm going to have to relay your question to mr affect well i think he has just said that eloquently a lot of the things that the three of us were talking about earlier there is a stereotype about the middle east there is a stereotype about muslims and he was he was the victim of that and i listening to the three of you talk think he's been very forbearing uh not nearly as angry as you or i might have been under those circumstances we all i think regret that stereotypes exist but they do and

01:18:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=4680s)

that stereotypes exist but they do and and it caught him does he harbor a grudge bruce morton was saying that you are showing a lot of forbearance in the way you're reacting to how you were treated and we've been talking about this stereotyping of middle eastern people and bruce's question is as a very direct one do you harbor a grudge uh i don't know exactly what you mean by that well do you have any ill feelings i i sure do but right now you know uh i i've been insulted enough in london uh being humiliated i was treated like a dirt you know they hand caught me they were like 20 15 policemen around me and i uh i was starving to death i asked for the basic things i just want to eat in order for me to answer your questions just please give me something to eat you were asking for food and how long did you go without food while in custody i don't know how many hours before i got to london but i was held about four or five hours in london so i will say about seven eight hours and usually i don't eat in the plane you know uh because the meat thing so i don't know how many hours i went without eating but in that moment you know the first moment when they put me in they locked me in one of the rooms i the first thing i said i'm starving to death i have a headache heathrow airborne you didn't need because of religious dietary concerns right on the plane right but you were you wanted to eat in london yes you were in the clutches of london authorities yes british authorities and please continue uh so uh i said i have a headache my stomach is just going crazy i i just need something to eat in

order for me to talk and they said well we only can offer you something to drink we cannot give you anything i say i am a u.s citizen all you have to do call the fbi back in chicago they questioned me for six hours they told me you're free to leave and i am a u.s citizen and i have the right

01:20:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=4800s)

i am a u.s citizen and i have the right to talk to any american officer they say well we will see about that and they keep me about four or five hours just locked in the room after this drive me all the way and i don't i don't remember i told him this is against my religion to strip me all the way i can't understand you want to search me but when when it came to my underwear and all that stuff and i said just call the fbi in chicago they will tell you you know they got nothing on me and they the one who should care about me more than you you do because this happened in the united states they didn't respect that and five hours later that's when they had copy and i said just the last thing i'm asking you to do i wanna have just let me call my family back in jordan to let them know that i'm not coming i know it's about three hours driving from my house to the airport in amman jordan and just call my family there is someone who speaks english talk to them i don't want to talk to them they said no and and one more thing please i i said i know you are taking me back to the us but just respect one thing i am innocent what happened to innocent until proven guilty take my jacket off cover my hand i don't want to walk through heathrow airborne and people just looking at me and here is the guy who's behind the bombing and just they refuse to do all of that it just it doesn't matter what i said didn't have any respect abraham ahmed of oklahoma city thank you very much for coming over so that we could hear you tell us your story in your own words thank you we will be right back with more of our coverage in a moment the ceremony is about 35 minutes away [Music]

01:22:02 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=4922s)

so [Music] in all the world there's one airline that has more flights every day than any other now you can enjoy the flavor ireland is famous for one freshly brewed cup at a time with folger's irish cream gourmet coffee singles rich coffee with a smooth touch of irish cream favorite kelly's raisin bran tastes so good people forget it's good for them so while you're eating i'll read about the nutrition and then you give me your thoughts okay okay okay here we go wheat bran vitamin d really there are two reasons to eat kellogg's raisin bran the taste i think i hear a raisin does it say anything about nutrition to honor and obey the mazda626 was designed to be stable at speeds up to 125 miles per hour with an available v6 front wheel drive and dual air bag honor and obey so even at 55 you can feel secure knowing you've made the right decision now the decision is even easier at least the mazda626dx for just 199 a month with a thousand down [Music]

01:24:04 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=5044s)

[Applause] [Laughter] [Applause] no words are necessary after seeing and hearing this ovation for these search and rescue men and women who have been here since the dreadful moment that bomb exploded wednesday morning joining us stanley benlington a former cia counterterrorism expert he's in washington also in washington

01:26:02 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=5162s)

he's in washington also in washington george to williger you've seen the former deputy attorney general here on cnn over the past few days wolf blitzer is also here along with bruce morton in washington uh mr benlington could you start off by telling us uh what you're thinking now that we've heard of another person on the west coast arrested it looks more and more clear as if a particular group was involved that it was not the act of a singleton working with a friend we now have perhaps four maybe more suspects i would like perhaps just to mention one group there have been reports that some of the suspects are linked to a group called the arizona patriots we are now receiving some very interesting information about this group it was formed in 18 sorry in 1983 in prescott arizona by a former movie actor whose name is ty hardin from the very beginning of its formation in 1983 it's been in trouble with the law a number of arrests a number of attempts to blow up buildings uh and in 1986 federal law authorities having very successfully carried out a two-year undercover

penetration operation of the arizona patriots were able to arrest seven people for plots to to blow up federal offices and also jewish organizations in various states in the in the west it is a very dangerous organization george to william what do you make of the word that we have on david enigwez well as i see it bernie this is a another example of the approach that the fbi and the other law enforcement authorities working on this case are taking and that approach is to cast a very wide net with a thin mesh pursue all of the logical leads and avenues of investigation and when you look at what what we're covering here today

01:28:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=5280s)

covering here today one can understand why this law enforcement effort represents a vindication and an extension of both the public outrage and the public interest in having a thorough investigation that uh identifies and brings to justice everyone who bears responsibility for this awful tragedy mr terwilliger there's a wolf let's hear in oklahoma city how serious is the threat from additional terrorist operations in the united states right now from copycats or from sympathizers or from others who are still at large perhaps as part of this conspiracy i i would hope that the threat is not all that great wolf um i i think we would all like to believe that this is more of an isolated and aberrant event uh there certainly is an awful lot of disturbing invective out there from from some of these paramilitary right-wing groups although just as we need to be careful not to paint with too broad a brush regarding our arabic neighbors and members of our community we need to be careful in that regard in terms of these kinds of groups but i think one of the things we will see occurring both here in washington in the coming days and having policy affected in the field is to take a much more in-depth look at these groups for the very purpose of making sure that the government does everything that it can to prevent these kinds of future acts of violence and i i think there will probably be a fairly lively debate about what kind of license we should give the fbi and other law enforcement authorities to monitor and investigate groups that show a potential or propensity for violent activity let's show our viewers this man from san bernardino the justice department says david enig is a suspect he reportedly is an army deserter

01:30:02 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=5402s)

he reportedly is an army deserter he was picked up on charges unrelated to the bombing as he moved through once being taken into custody with this blanket over his head he is now being questioned in connection with the bombing of course here in oklahoma city the justice department would not comment on whether he is under arrest not at this moment they say that he is john doe too and the united states army considers anyone a wall if they've been away without authority for thirty days i'm just wondering uh mr derwilliger what do you think about the police work the fbi work the rapidity with which people were approached if not arrested talked to since wednesday morning it i think it is absolutely uh incredible um i think as we've we've talked about before bernie that one of the great strengths of the fbi is its ability to bring both its own resources and the coordinated resources of other agencies to bear in a major crisis situation and produce results and they have certainly shown in this particular circumstance that they can do that so well i also think that it makes use what they have done is make use of experience there is always after a major case and a major operation and after action analysis and the fact that all this all of this investigative activity stemmed from finding the vehicle identification number on part of the vehicle used in the bomb i think is a direct outgrowth of the bureau's experience in investigating these things they knew that that was a key piece of evidence they needed to look for from the outset and it has all flowed from there stanley bedlington you're a former cia counterterrorism specialist tell us what goes through the minds right now of current cia and other law enforcement

01:32:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=5520s)

cia and other law enforcement specialists on terrorism well you mentioned albanian mentioned just now the possibility of a copycat effect one would hope that this is not going to happen one would hope with a very speedy and efficient prosecution of the investigation by the fbi and other law enforcement authorities will act as somewhat of a deterrent one also must hope that some of these people who perhaps are involved in in planning uh operations might be sickened by the horror of this terrible tragedy but obviously my former

colleagues in the cia overseas and as well as the people in the bureau and police and law enforcement police in this country must be now on the alert for people planning to conduct similar operations hopefully it won't happen do you know mr meddlington of any previous examples where domestic homegrown u.s terrorists have engaged in this kind of truck bomb or car bomb there's absolutely no evidence whatsoever that i that i can see there's certainly is a history of violence by a number of hate groups and a number of minor bomb explosions have taken place ever since some of these groups started way back in 1969 but to the best of my knowledge we have seen nothing of this magnitude ever before at least in this we work non-stop since this explosion wednesday morning 9 a.m local time this is something that uh certainly he has not no one here in oklahoma anticipated but it's something that uh he and everyone else here has been forced to cope with it will be of course as you know several choirs will be singing here during the course of this program this prayer service and there will be other musical presentations as well the children's choral society of oklahoma judith burns the conductor along with the fine musicians we're hearing from the oklahoma city philharmonic orchestra they will also accompany susan powell who will do a solo

01:34:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=5641s)

who will do a solo on eagle's wings we will hear the reading of the 23rd psalm kirk johnston and joe suttlemaier is a guitarist will perform here in this arena and as we indicated kathy keating the first lady wife the governor of the state of oklahoma has worked tirelessly as have her colleagues on this if you are just joining us cnn is bringing you live coverage of the memorial service from the oklahoma city state fairgrounds we are inside the arena there are 11 000 people men women children of all ages assembled here we have reached the maximum seating capacity and the fire marshal reluctantly but prudently has had to close the doors to any other people there are rooms set up also here on the fairgrounds for people and they'll be watching on televisions and of course hearing on radio you might recall that the mayor of the city ronald nurik suggested 48 hours ago that at 3 p.m central time wherever you are you ring a bell around the world he said around the world and we are less than three minutes away from that now and we will know about the ring of the bells nationwide worldwide more applause for recognizable faces of people coming in you know bernie at least half the cabinet or maybe even more will be represented here ron brown the commerce secretary donna shalala and jesse brown veterans administration there will be a lot of uh cabinet

01:36:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=5760s)

there will be a lot of uh cabinet members here more of the fire department people and these special rescue dogs search and rescue people are coming in those dogs have been very very important in going into the rubble and trying to find survivors they haven't really been very many but they've been finding bodies they certainly have they've been brought in by the way from all over the country fema the federal emergency management agency has brought in six teams of specialists to go in usually they work in earthquakes and floods mother natural disasters this has not been a natural disaster i'm looking for raven the dog i i didn't interview raven uh but i i patted her and her owner sharon kyle we talked to her i think thursday afternoon when we were kneeling what the mayor of oklahoma city requested is uh just a short while away from happening he asked that everyone ring a bell at 3 p.m central time at the beginning church bell is all over the country too we'll be ringing out yes that they be wrong on every continent of this planet this ceremony is uh just a matter of a bit less than two minutes uh from getting underway and uh let's go quickly to our colleague in washington bruce morton before things get started well one more role for president clinton bernie presidents are a lot of different things from statesmen on down or up they are among other things a national comforter a role ronald reagan for instance played so well after the challenger disaster this is mr clinton's first real run at that and uh so far i think he's getting pretty high marks yes he is getting high marks uh we are inside the arena on the oklahoma fairgrounds

01:38:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=5880s)

fairgrounds as i indicated we have reached maximum capacity and this program is uh you are moved just as your eyes scan down both sides of the program this one is the program is headed by the title statewide prayer service program well it is uh going to be an emotional prayer service i've attended some of these prayer services over the years and of course billy graham who will be delivering a personal message a religious message he will no doubt move this audience as he speaks normally bells would peel from this tower but the blast wednesday morning destroyed that possibility a hush has fallen over the 11 to 12 000 people here in the arena and we're going to be very tentative in our remarks because we are waiting as you are waiting for this program to begin if you could have virtual silence in a room with twelve thousand people it virtually exists here well i've never heard this before except for a few babies crying there is not a peep coming out of this audience and i'm sure the parents who brought these youngsters no matter the age of the youngsters they want them to know that they were in this arena on this day [Music]

01:40:08 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=6008s)

[Music] foreign [Music] uh [Music] that a moment of silence here in the arena we are going to have a welcome from kathy keating the first lady of oklahoma then her husband the governor will speak making introductory remarks then the president of the united states and so on damn this program a message from the reverend billy graham wolf you and i got an advanced copy of his remarks but as a matter of protocol we'll just put it aside and hear what dr graham has to say when he says it i think that would be a good idea we

01:42:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=6120s)

i think that would be a good idea we hear of course in the background some prelude music from the oklahoma city philharmonic orchestra french horn right now we just heard him playing america this [Music] the governor and his delegation are now entering the arena and people are standing of course and here's the president and the first lady reverend ahead of them [Applause] [Music] [Applause] so [Applause] [Laughter] [Applause] you know bernie normally the president is introduced by an announcer who says ladies and gentlemen the president of the united states but this was not an occasion for that kind of formal introduction to an audience of this sort and wolf this audience was applauding and they were whistling it is their way of saying welcome thank you for coming they are deeply grateful to the president and to the first lady for the

01:44:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=6241s)

president and to the first lady for the support you know arkansas is very close to oklahoma and i've been told by some of the president's aides that he personally feels outraged not only because he's the president of the united states but oklahoma and arkansas are just neighbors something happening happening to a neighbor joel levine musical director of the city's philharmonic orchestra with this preload and this now is the official beginning of this memorial service here on the state fairgrounds [Music] [Applause] [Music] foreign [Applause] [Music]

01:46:05 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=6365s)

so [Music] [Applause] [Music] so [Music] [Applause] [Music]

01:48:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=6480s)

ladies and gentlemen dr rod masteller [Applause] [Music] and to remember those who [Music] lost their lives who are missing and who are injured we all have a lot of wide questions why would god allow this to happen why the children why oklahoma why there seems to be no answers right now and what are we to do with our emotions of fear and anger and helps guilt [Music] i have those feelings and ask those questions a very wealthy man in he got word one day that ross was missing in the rio grande he flew down there and hired airplanes and boats and helicopters and trackers and dogs but ross was dead he recalls walking on the bank

above the rio grande thinking in his mind i can't buy my way out of this i can't think my way out of this i can't work my way out of this i can't even power my way out of this i have only one choice and that's to trust my way out

01:50:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=6601s)

my way out so he claimed proverbs 3 5 and 6 that i want us to claim today trust in the lord with all your heart and lean not and to your own understanding in all thy ways acknowledge him and he will direct your path we must look to him the one who said i am the resurrection and the light he that believeth in me though he were dead yet shall he live father from the depths of our hearts we want to trust we really want to believe and lord we pray for these who have lost loved ones and those that are missing dear father would you comfort them would you strengthen them in a way that only you can and lord would you allow us to find some that are still alive and god would you protect those and strengthen those who do the searching dear god bless us we need so much your presence here dear god we need your presence and our nation your power on our nation god turn us to you may we look to you and your grace and your mercy and find strength as we trust you and we pray in christ's name amen let's stand together and sing from our hearts amazing grace [Music]

01:52:11 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=6731s)

uh [Music] is [Music] oh [Music] oh [Music] [Applause] ah [Music] um [Music]

01:54:11 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=6851s)

uh [Music] oh [Music] so ladies and gentlemen the first lady of oklahoma kathy keating [Applause] a little more than 100 hours ago our state was a quiet and happy place no one could have dreamt that today we would be gathered in such number numbers or in such limitless grief we have come here today for prayer and to begin a time of healing our community our state and our country have responded to this tragedy

01:56:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=6961s)

to this tragedy with strength and ability and courage today we come together again with hope and gratitude and with many many tears we are honored to be joined by distinguished guests who have come to share our pain and our hopes we are grateful to those who have given their talents and their artistry to this service we thank the clergy of our state who have been pillars of strength and and solace to so many in this terrible time and we embrace those most directly touched by tragedy there are many recovering victims of the blast with us today their outer wounds are still visible as are their inner wounds others lie in hospitals or at home too seriously injured to be with us our prayers are with them to the family members of the dead the hurt and the missing we offer our tears and our deepest sympathy many of them had joined us today as well please know that three million oklahomans are hugging them at this moment as are millions and millions of people throughout this world their grief is vast and their uncertainty is terrible but they can be certain of one thing our heartfelt love the rescuers the helpers and the volunteers are here too never have we seen such a noble blending of courage and compassion from the first seconds after the blast to this very minute in all weather day and night they have worked tirelessly to save and to comfort and to protect some have come from far away but we want we honor all of them today as true heroes and heroines from now on whenever we see a policeman or a fireman or a rescue worker or a volunteer let's thank them

01:58:08 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=7088s)

[Applause] finally our children some are dead some are missing and all of them no matter where they may have been on wednesday are tragically wounded it is a terrible crime to steal a child's trust in the goodness of humanity we we have to hold our children close to the nightmares to come we have to teach them that evil is not the norm and we begin that process today but our healing will not come in a day or a week or a year our wounds are deep and our scars are raw we will find our separate paths to healing but we can and we must begin that journey together i am so grateful to those who are with us today both in the arena in the

maiden oklahoma building in the 89er stadium and by radio or television on this day of mourning oklahoma comes together together we will make a brighter tomorrow for our victims for our children and for all of us who have been deeply touched by this tragedy god bless you [Applause] society of oklahoma oh [Music]

02:00:04 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=7204s)

[Music] oh me [Music] [Applause] [Music] [Applause] [Music] [Applause] foreign [Applause] [Music] [Applause] [Music]

02:02:05 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=7325s)

[Music] yes [Music] [Applause] [Music] [Applause] me yes [Music] [Applause] [Music] [Applause] [Music] foreign [Music] oh [Music] [Applause] [Music] [Applause] um [Music]

02:04:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=7440s)

[Music] [Applause] [Music] [Applause] [Music] [Applause] ladies and gentlemen the governor of state of oklahoma [Applause] this arena holds at most a few thousand people

02:06:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=7561s)

holds at most a few thousand people but today it contains the heart of the nation we have come here in shared sorrow to grieve the loss of beloved neighbors to honor brave comrades to join our souls in close communion with god the tragedy of april 19th shocked america it's unspeakable evil sickened the world never in the history of the country have americans witnessed since since that senseless barbarism it has been suggested that those who committed this act of mass murder chose us as their victims because we were supposedly immune the heartland of america well we are the heartland of america today we stand before the world and before our god together our hearts and our hands links in a solidarity these criminals can never understand we stand together in love we have seen the terrifying images and read the heart-rending stories some of us have lived them the firefighter clutching the body of a sweet innocent child the policeman reaching through rubble to grasp the hand of a victim the volunteer of stretcher bearers some black some white some brown all linked together in courage and compassion rushing aid to the wounded the healers embracing life the mourners lamenting death the endless lines of donors

02:08:02 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=7682s)

the endless lines of donors and helpers and givers giving their labor their hopes their treasure their very blood through all of this through the tears the righteous anger the soul-rending sorrow the immeasurable loss we have sometimes felt alone but we are never ever truly alone we have god and we have each other today we have our neighbors more than three million oklahomans and never have we drawn so close together there is something special about our wonderful state we have always known that now america does now the world does [Applause] today we have our fellow americans from the power of our federal relief and investigative agencies to the prayers of millions they will bring us justice as they have already brought us hope and we will be forever grateful for this outpouring of love and support today we have our families so many of them torn apart by sorrow and hurt but families still strong through the generations stronger yet through this terrible ordeal today we have our heroes and we have our heroines saints in gray and blue and white and khaki the rescuers and the healers they have labored long

02:10:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=7800s)

they have labored long and nobly and they have cried with us today we have our leaders mr president reverend graham we are moved by your presence the warmth of your mouth welcome may be dim by our tears but it is one of deep gratitude thank you for coming to touch our lives [Applause] today we have our children oklahoma is still a young state and our young people are very special to us we have been brutally reminded of how precious they are by the events of the last several days for them we reserve our warmest

hugs and our gentlest touch and today we have our god he is not a god of your religion or mine but of all people in all times he is a god of love but he is also a god of justice today he assures us once again that good is stronger than evil that love is greater than hate that each of us is his special child embraced by his father's love our pain is vast our loss is beyond measure we cannot fathom this act but we can reach beyond its horrible consequences the thousands of us gathered here today are multiplied by god's love anointed by his gentle mercy today we are one with him and with one another it is right for us to grieve

02:12:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=7921s)

it is right for us to grieve we have all been touched by this immense tragedy and our sorrow is part of the healing process for some of us stricken with intense personal loss it will be a long and tortured path for all of us it is a journey through darkness but darkness ends in the morning light that is god's promise and that is our hope there is a lovely parable of a man who looked back in his life and saw it as an endless series of footprints in the sand at times there were two sets of footprints side by side and he remembered those times as happy times at other times there was only one set of prince the times of sadness and pain he confronted god and he asked him why he had ceased to walk beside him when he most needed that support why he wondered had god abandon him and god answered but my son those were the times i was carrying you he carries us today cupped gently in his loving hands [Applause] ladies and gentlemen the president of the united states of america bill clinton [Applause]

02:14:24 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=8064s)

thank you very much governor keating and mrs keating reverend graham to the families of those who have been lost and wounded to the people of oklahoma city who have endured so much and the people of this wonderful state to all of you who are here as our fellow americans i am honored to be here today to represent the american people but i have to tell you that hillary and i also come as parents as husband and wife as people who were your neighbors for some of the best years of our lives today our nation joins with you in grief we mourn with you we share your hope against hope that some may still survive we thank all those who have worked so heroically to save lives and to solve this crime those here in oklahoma and those who are all across this great land and many who left their own lives to come here to work hand in hand with you we pledge to do all we can to help you heal the injured to rebuild this city and to bring to justice those who did this evil this terrible sin took the lives of our american family

02:16:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=8160s)

our american family innocent children in that building only because their parents were trying to be good parents as well as good workers citizens in the building going about their daily business and many there who served the rest of us who work to help the elderly and the disabled who work to support our farmers and our veterans who work to enforce our laws and to protect us let us say clearly they serve us well and we are grateful but for so many of you they were also neighbors and friends you saw them at church or the pta meetings at the civic club to the ballpark you know them in ways that all the rest of america could not and to all the members of the families here present who have suffered loss though we share your grief your pain is unimaginable and we know that we cannot undo it that is god's work our words seem small beside the loss you have endured but i found a few i wanted to share today i received a lot of letters in these last terrible days one stood out because it came from a young widow and a mother of three whose own husband was murdered with over 200 other americans when pan am 103

02:18:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=8281s)

am 103 was shot down here is what that woman said i should say to you today the anger you feel is valid but you must not allow yourselves to be consumed by it the hurt you feel must not be allowed to turn into hate but instead into the search for justice the loss you feel must not paralyze your own lives instead you must try to pay tribute to your loved ones by continuing to do all the things they left undone thus ensuring they did not die in vain wise words from one who also knows you have lost too much but you have not lost everything and

you have certainly not lost america for we will stand with you for as many tomorrows as it takes [Applause] if ever we needed evidence of that i could only recall the words of governor and mrs keating if anybody thinks that americans are mostly mean and selfish they ought to come to oklahoma [Applause] if anybody thinks americans have lost the capacity for love and caring and courage they ought to come to oklahoma

02:20:03 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=8403s)

to all my fellow americans beyond this hall i say one thing we owe those who have sacrificed is the duty to purge ourselves of the dark forces which gave rise to this evil [Applause] they are forces that threaten our common peace our freedom our way of life let us teach our children that the god of comfort is also the god of righteousness those who trouble their own house will inherit the wind justice will prevail [Applause] let us let our own children know that we will stand against the forces of fear when there is talk of hatred let us stand up and talk against it when there is talk of violence let us stand up and talk against it in the face of death let us honor life as saint paul admonished us let us not be overcome by evil but overcome evil with good [Applause] yesterday hillary and i had the privilege of speaking with some children of other federal employees children like those who were lost here and one little girl said something we will never forget she said we should all plant a tree

02:22:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=8521s)

we should all plant a tree in memory of the children so this morning before we got on the plane to come here at the white house we planted that tree in honor of the children of oklahoma [Applause] it was a dogwood with its wonderful spring flower and its deep enduring roots it embodies the lesson of the psalms that the life of a good person is like a tree whose leaf does not wither my fellow americans a tree takes a long time to grow and wounds take a long time to heal but we must begin those who are lost now belong to god someday we will be with them but until that happens their legacy must be our lives thank you all and god bless you [Applause] so [Applause] soloist susan powell with the oklahoma city philharmonic orchestra

02:24:11 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=8651s)

[Music] my [Music] oh [Music] he will raise you [Music] made you to shine like the sun [Music] will never capture you and famine under his wings your refuge his faithfulness [Music] and he will raise you up

02:26:05 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=8765s)

[Music] make you to shine like the sun of [Music] you need not hear the terror of the night nor the arrow that lies [Music] it shall not come [Music] for he will raise you [Music] up of dawn make you to shine like the sun [Music] of his hands [Music] oh to his angels he's given a command to guard you in all of your way upon their hands they will bear you up lest you dash your foot against a

02:28:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=8880s)

up lest you dash your foot against a stone [Music] make you to shine like the sun of his the before [Music] [Applause] philippe [Applause] my dear brothers and sisters in mid-morning today the sun began to peer through dispelling the darkness which yesterday's storm clouds had caused in a similar fashion all of us as oklahomans as americans and as members of the human family

02:30:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=9001s)

and as members of the human family have been under a heavy dark cloud caused by last wednesday's tragic bombing here in oklahoma city every one of us has been affected every one of us hurts every one of us is grieving but every one of us can be a person filled with hope our hope is in the lord god it is he who like the morning sun can and will dispel the darkness of this tragic moment the hope which we express here today by our gathering is not a vague wish for a nebulous future our hope is much more realistic and certainly attainable our hope is a belief and a trust that a loving god who endowed us with true freedom

freedom freedom is a gift from god which requires a response and bears responsibility the response is love for god who is love created us out of love and made us capable of receiving his love and loving him in return the responsibility we bear is the obligation to respect the intrinsic dignity of every human being and to fulfill our duties to each other thus making this world a better place in which to live we have seen evil in our midst this week but we have also seen so much good

02:32:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=9121s)

but we have also seen so much good the outpouring of words of consolation from all over the world the outpouring of countless volunteers laboring under trying in difficult circumstances the outpouring of generosity beyond all measure the outpouring of love which is the motivation for all that is good and worthwhile yes we have come together here today in sorrow but we also gather together in hope just as we share the same sorrow for we are all brothers and sisters so do we share the same hope this fundamental unity exists because a good and a gracious god created us in his own image and likeness it is to this loving god our creator our sustainer our redeemer that we now turn in prayer and with hope as we meditate on psalm 23. the lord is my shepherd i shall not want inverted pastures he gives me repose beside restful waters he leads me he refreshes my soul he guides me in right paths for his name's sake even though i walk in the dark valley i fear no evil for you are at my side with your rod and your staff that give me courage you spread the table before me in the sight of all my foes

02:34:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=9241s)

sight of all my foes you anoint my head with oil my cup overflows only goodness and kindness follow me all the days of my life and i shall dwell in the house of the lord for years to come for the lord is my shepherd and there is nothing that i shall want the canterbury choral society [Applause] [Music] foreign [Music] [Applause] [Music] oh [Music] hey oh [Music]

02:36:11 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=9371s)

oh [Music] [Applause] [Music] oh [Music] [Applause] [Music] hey [Applause] [Music] oh [Music] [Applause] [Music] oh [Applause] oh [Music] ah

02:38:03 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=9483s)

uh [Music] [Applause] oh [Music] [Applause] is [Applause] there was a city long ago that experienced destruction [Music] despair and desolation many in ancient city experienced desolation and was covered with the sands of time to be excavated thousands of years later by archaeologists babylon nineveh haran and ur but one city came back from desolation more beautiful more holy more together than even before and the name of that city was jerusalem

02:40:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=9600s)

was jerusalem and so our city our community our oklahoma city will come back in greater closeness with greater beauty with greater love [Applause] a citizen of that jerusalem wrote these words of poetry in the day of jerusalem's agony we call this volume of poetry the book of lamentations on that day he wrote how lonely sits the city that was full of people how like a widow she has become she that was great among the nations she that was a princess among the cities behold oh lord how we are in distress our soul in tumult our heart rung within us i called on your name o lord from the depths of the pit you did hear my plea do not close your ear to my cry for help you did come near when i called on you you did say do not fear restore us unto yourself o lord that we may be restored renew our days as of old amen [Applause] ladies and gentlemen the mayor of oklahoma city

02:42:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=9721s)

oklahoma city john noel [Applause] mr president our people the families of the victims wish to thank you for the swift action and strong action that you sent to our city in support of our needy people and today we are represented by two ladies judy mars who is representing her husband the chief of the fire department of oklahoma city and all the firefighters that are down there working today judy mars [Applause] and we have another lovely lady here today barbara gonzalez her husband is the chief of the oklahoma city police department and she is representing all of the law enforcement officers who are here in our fine city barbara [Applause] i cannot begin to tell you the appreciation that i have and the people of oklahoma city have for the generosity that has been sent to

02:44:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=9841s)

for the generosity that has been sent to our community over this last four days this has been a trying time for us it's been a trying time for our people but the support that we have received worldwide is appreciated there are firefighters there are policemen who have come here on their own and that we appreciate appreciate that [Applause] there are so many volunteers down there that that are helping to feed these people to provide clothing to provide everything they need there are also so many people of our city family and that's our city employees who are working they have worked all weekend and they continue to work and i know that my fellow council members are here today and they have been supporting this effort 100 and i thank them for that effort in time of crisis i know of no other country no other state or no other city who takes care of its citizens like we do [Applause] in time of sorrow and grief there is no other man who can start the vital task of spiritual and physical healing for our people other than the reverend billy graham and i am so appreciative that he is here [Applause]

02:46:08 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=9968s)

[Applause] president clinton mrs clinton governor keating mrs keating mayor norrick and our visiting governor from the great state of texas governor and mrs bush and so many people that have come here from all over the country to join in this prayer service and for all that has been said i don't know what i'm going to say because we've had several messages brought here one from the president which could be a sermon from a pulpit anywhere and uh maybe that's what he'll do someday [Applause] 10 or 20 years from now [Applause] but most important of all all of those people that have been named from the fire department the police department those people that were in the building those people that have lost loved ones those that have been injured in the bombing our tears mingle with yours as we walked through the room a moment ago and shook hands with so many of you and had a little prayer with several of you and you from the various agencies

02:48:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=10080s)

and you from the various agencies like the fire the medical the police the hundreds of volunteers who we've already heard about no matter how hard we try words simply cannot express the horror and the shock and the revulsion we all feel over what took place in this city last wednesday that terrible and senseless tragedy runs against the grain of every standard every belief and every custom we hold as a civilized society in the united states and the images of devastation and human suffering we've seen here will be indelibly imprinted on each one of our minds and hearts as long as we live that blast was like a violent explosion ripping at the very heart of america and long after the rubble is cleared and the rebuilding begins the scars of this senseless and evil outrage will remain but we come together here today not only to pray and forgive and love but to say to those who mastermind this cruel plot and to those who carried it out that the spirit of this city and this nation will not be defeated [Applause] someday the wounds will heal

02:50:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=10200s)

the wounds will heal and someday those who thought they could sow chaos and discord will be brought to justice as president clinton has so eloquently promised the wounds of this tragedy are deep but the courage and the faith and determination of the people of oklahoma city are even deeper apart a part of my family lives

in oklahoma my father had a brother an older brother a giant of a man and he came to oklahoma and he founded a business in tahlequah in muskogee i came to oklahoma city and held two or three crusades the first one was here in these fairgrounds many many years ago some of you might have been little children at that time but i've known something of the strength and the courage and the character of people that live in oklahoma and the bible says the bible says in psalm 147 3 he heals the brokenhearted he binds up the wounds and so with this service today we stand together to say let the healing begin [Applause] but since i have been here i have been asked the question several times many times why does god allow it why does a god of love and mercy that we read about and hear about allow such a terrible thing to happen over 3 000 years ago

02:52:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=10321s)

over 3 000 years ago there was a man named job struggled with the same question he asked why because he was a good man and yet this disaster struck him suddenly and swiftly he lost seven sons three daughters he lost all his possessions he even lost his health even his wife and his friends turned against him his wife said curse god and die and in the midst of his suffering he asked this question why job didn't know why did i not perish at birth he cried perhaps this is the way you feel and i want to assure you that god understands those feelings the bible says in isaiah 43 2 when you pass through the waters i will be with you and when you walk through the fire you will not be burned the flames will not set you ablaze and yet job found there were lessons to be learned from his suffering even if he didn't fully understand it and that is true for all of us as well what are some of the lessons that we can learn from what has happened first there's a mystery to it i've been asked why god allows it i don't know i can't give a direct answer i have to confess that i never fully understand even for my own satisfaction i have to accept by faith that god is a god of love and mercy and compassion even in the midst of suffering i can remember many years ago lying on a dirt floor in a field hospital in korea and looking up into the face of a soldier suspended in a frame who was horribly wounded and the doctor said he'll never walk again and i ask myself why

02:54:03 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=10443s)

and i ask myself why i can recall standing at the bedside of children who were dying and i've asked myself lord why i recall walking through the devastation left by hurricanes in florida and south carolina and typhoons in india and earthquakes in guatemala and california and i've asked myself why the bible says god is not the author of evil and it speaks of evil in first thessalonians as a mystery there's something about evil we will never fully understand this side of eternity but the bible says two other things that we sometimes attempted to forget it tells us that there is a devil that satan is very real and he has great power it also tells us that evil is real and that the human heart is capable of almost limitless evil when it is cut off from god and from the moral law the prophet jeremiah said the heart is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked who can know it that's your heart in my heart without god that's one reason we each need god in our lives for only he can change our hearts and give us the desire and the power to do what is right and keep us from wrong times like this will do one of two things it will either make us hard and bitter and angry at god or they will make us tender and open and help us to reach out in trust and faith and i think that's what the people of oklahoma are doing that i have met since i've been here these past two days i pray that you will not let bitterness and poison

02:56:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=10561s)

poison creep into your soul but that you will turn in faith and trust in god even if we cannot understand it is better to face something like this with god than without him but the lesson of this event has not only been about mystery but we've already heard it's a lesson of a community coming together what an ex what an example oklahoma city and the people of oklahoma have given to the world because the television has been caring at as much as any event i can ever remember like this and the cooperation between officials of every level of government and the community no matter what religious group we belong to and what political views we may have none of us will ever forget some of those pictures on television that have already been

mentioned here today for the picture of hundreds of people standing in line to give blood the work of the red cross the salvation army and a host of other humanitarian organizations as well as the emergency workers and the doctors and the nurses have inspired us and humbled us a tragedy like this could have torn this city apart but instead it has united you in a way that you've never been united before [Applause] hundreds if not thousands of prayer groups around the world have been praying for you and i'm sure as i've been told that you sensed their prayers and their support the forces of hate and violence must not

02:58:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=10681s)

the forces of hate and violence must not be allowed to gain their victory not just in our society but in our hearts now must we respond to hate with more hate this is a time of coming together and we've seen that already and have been inspired by this tragedy also gives us a lesson in comfort and compassion we've seen an outpouring of sympathy and help not only in oklahoma city and oklahoma but throughout the united states and throughout the world we've been reminded that a cruel event like this which so vividly demonstrates the depths of human evil also brings out the best of us brings out the best of the human spirit the human compassion and sympathy and sacrifice but this can also teach us about god's comfort and compassion some of you today are going through heartache and grief so intense that you wonder if it'll ever go away i've had the privilege of meeting some of you and talking to you but i want to tell you that our god cares for you and for your family and for your city the bible says that the god of all comfort who comforts us in our troubles jesus said blessed are they that mourn for they shall be comforted i pray that every one of you will experience god's comfort during these days as you turn to him for god loves you and he shares in your suffering difficult as it may be for us to see right now this event gives us as we've heard

03:00:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=10801s)

this event gives us as we've heard from the archbishop a message of hope yes there is hope there's hope for the present because i believe the stage has already been set for the restoration and renewal of the spirit of this city you're a city that will always survive and you'll never give up today it's my prayer that all americans will rededicate ourselves to a new spirit of brotherhood and compassion working together to solve the problems and barriers that would tear us apart but there's also hope for the future because of god's promises as a christian i have hoped not just for this life but for the life to come someday there will be a glorious reunion with those who have died and gone to heaven before us and that includes all those innocent children that are lost they're not lost from god because any child that young is automatically in heaven and in god's arms but this this this event also reminds us of the brevity and uncertainty of life it reminds us that we never know when we're going to be taken i doubt if even one of those who went to that building to work or to go to the children's place ever dreamed that that was their last day on earth that is why we each need to face our own spiritual needs

03:02:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=10920s)

spiritual needs and commit ourselves to god it's ironic that this terrible event took place just three days after the churches of this city were filled with people celebrating easter just one week ago today and today throughout the world the eastern orthodox churches celebrate easter on this day and easter always brings hope to all of us for the christian the cross tells us that god understands our suffering for he took upon himself at the cross all of our sins and all of our failures and all of our sufferings and our lord on that cross asked the question why my god my god why has that forsaken me and he received his answer he knew to redeem the world to save you and me from our sins to give us assurance that if we died we're going to heaven he was saying from the cross i love you and i know the heartaches and the sorrows and the pain that you feel easter points us beyond the tragedy of the cross to the hope of the empty tomb it tells us that there's hope for eternal life for christ has conquered death and it also tells us that god has triumphed over evil and death in hell this is our hope and it can be your hope as well i was deeply moved friday night while watching larry king talk to edie smith who lost her two little boys in that explosion her brother a 28 year old police officer was dispatched to the crime scene to

03:04:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=11041s)

was dispatched to the crime scene to help and in searching the rubble he found one of his nephews the boy's grandfather is a christian evangelist who said that conducting their funeral is the hardest thing he ever faced and that his faith had been crucial in helping him through the tragedy he quoted romans 8 28 and we know that in all things god works for the good of those who love him and said if that were the only verse he had in the whole bible it would work through all of his problems if we only believe it president and mrs kennedy on mrs clinton will remember at the national prayer breakfast in washington earlier this year ambassador andrew young who'd gone through the terrible agony of losing his beloved wife whom he loved so much to cancer he closed his talk at our prayer breakfast with a quote from an old hymn how firm our foundation the fourth verse of that hymn says the soul that on jesus hath leaned for repose i will not i will not desert to expose that soul though all hell should endeavor to shake i'll never no never forsake my prayer for you today is that you will feel the loving arms of god wrapped around you and will know in your heart that he will never forsake you as you trust him god bless oklahoma [Applause]

03:06:12 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=11172s)

thank you ladies and gentlemen thank you soloist kurt johnstone [Music] would you know my name if i wasn't in heaven would it be the same if i saw you in heaven [Music] i must be strong [Music] then carry on cause i know that don't be long here in heaven would you hold my hand if i saw you in heaven would you help me stand if i saw you in heaven i'll find my way through night and day cause i know i just can't stay here in heaven [Music]

03:08:07 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=11287s)

time can bring you down time can bend their knees time can break the heart [Music] begging please [Music] beyond the door there's peace i'm sure cause i know there'll be no more tears in heaven [Music] would you know my name if i saw you in heaven would it be the same [Music] if i saw you in heaven i must be strong i'll carry on cause i know i don't belong in heaven cause i know i don't belong [Music] in heaven

03:10:02 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=11402s)

[Music] miss kristen bramble reading the children by susan custer i am the voice of the children simple and honest and clear forever the light in the darkest of nights i have not gone away i'm here i am the eyes of the children with vision beyond my years i focus my sight unblinking and bright unclouded except for my tears i am the soul of the children innocent blameless and pure my spirit undaunted through violence flaunted will conquer and ever endure remember the trust of the children darkness will not have its day take hold of my hands and we'll both understand that the children will show you the way [Applause] pastor carlton pearson

03:12:04 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=11524s)

we're just about to complete this mornings or this afternoon ceremony and memorial service and mourning and healing service and to our governor and president and to our pastor to graham to the dear families this is a holy moment in america it's also a healthy moment a very hearty gutsy moment because experience is not only what happens to us it is what we do with what happens to us and rather than re acting in fear we have chosen to respond in faith god is hearing our prayers he's observing this gathering today and the best for oklahoma and america is still to come been asked to give a final blessing on this afternoon and they will have another song we've all been sitting for a while i guess we could uh bow our heads or and uh prepare to leave father in the name of jesus christ of nazareth we love you we honor you we bless your name thank you that you have rebuked the devour for our sake and you have cast the devil out of our minds we come against the forces of evil in this country and we pray through the power of the holy spirit there will be a sweeping revival a sweeping renewal in america here in oklahoma city and in the state of oklahoma and throughout the land

you said blessed is the nation whose god is the lord you said righteousness exalts a nation but sin is a reproach to any people we repent of our errors and our sins and we bow before your lord god and ask you to give us another chance we pray for the families of those victims who have been so ruthlessly slain

03:14:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=11641s)

have been so ruthlessly slain and we pray that you will mend every broken heart and heal every broken home and that you will inspire us with a hope by which we're saved jesus you're bigger than life we love you lord god and we trust you we take refuge in you we depend on you we lean on you and we have a feeling that somehow through your mighty power and your grace everything is going to be all right we pray in the name of the lord jesus christ forever and ever amen now we will close our statewide prayer service program with ernestine dillard singing god bless america [Music] amen [Music] [Applause] [Music] is [Music] is [Music] oh

03:16:02 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=11762s)

[Music] my [Music] oh his grace [Applause] [Music] see [Applause] me [Music] [Applause] [Music] his race [Music] [Applause] [Music] [Applause] [Music] [Laughter] [Music]

03:18:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=11880s)

[Music] [Applause] [Music] ah hey [Music] [Applause] [Music] [Applause] [Music] [Applause] after the president departs the arena family members of those honored here today are invited to come forward and take the flowers with them this concludes our statewide prayer service thank you for coming [Applause] here in the indoor arena on the oklahoma state fairgrounds the feeling is electric in the aisles in the rows of seats the president of the united states tears welling in his eyes as ernestine dillard went to the mountain symbolically with her voice in singing god bless america

03:20:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=12001s)

her voice in singing god bless america president clinton and his wife luin this afternoon the tinker air force base the president coming to grieve and to share with the oklahomans he told them very pointedly we share your hope against hope that some will survive and he urged oklahomans who lost loved ones to pay tribute to your loved ones as he put it the president urging oklahomans to continue to do what their loved ones have left undone in honor of their memory he went on to say we will stand with you for as many tomorrows as it will take the president in calling for national unity and healing said we need to purge ourselves of the dark forces which give rise to this evil and then with a tone of warning in his voice uh bruce morton and wolf blitzer the president said those who trouble their own house will inherit the wind justice will prevail and you know bernie billy graham the reverend billy graham when he said that the president had promised everyone that those responsible for this tragedy would be brought to justice he promised he said that brought this crowd about 11 000 inside this to another ovation because they want those responsible to be caught even as billy graham said the healing process must begin it was clear that they also first and foremost have to finish the job at hand rescue any survivors who may still be alive obviously that's number one number two find those responsible number three make sure it doesn't happen again bruce just watching it on television here in washington bernie and wolf a couple of things you know at some point in every president's turn you look usually when they're leaving office and you say he's aged a lot you

03:22:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=12121s)

office and you say he's aged a lot you look at it still photographed as a departing president photographing music this is the first time i've looked at william jefferson clinton since he took the oath of office and thought to myself he's aging this job is taking its toll on him the other thing that was just a striking image here i thought was all the sad face people sitting sitting in the audience with teddy bears those of course are the people who had lost someone in this disaster sad faces cheery faces very often holding holding these stuffed

bears that's a picture that's going to stay with us the president talked about having planted that dogwood today before he and the first lady left for oklahoma city receiving the idea from one of the young children in the oval office at that ceremony yesterday and in his concluding remarks president clinton told this audience as well as the national and the worldwide audience he said you know a tree takes a long time to grow and wounds take a long time to heal the president got a standing ovation but i wasn't looking over my shoulder as people were standing and applauding i was looking past you wolf and there was a father in a white net uh sweater he had i estimate a two-year-old son in his arm and as the father mounted the stairs to go back here in the auditorium the little two-year-old boy was applauding when he talked about the children and you know right behind our camera position over here there was a young girl maybe 15 16 year old and she didn't stop crying virtually during the entire ceremony i my eyes were sort of riveted on her because i from where i was sitting but there's no doubt that there were a lot of people crying in here and the president and the first lady were removed not only because they represented the people of the united states as they said they did but they also appearance they also are neighbors and they're friends excuse me for

03:24:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=12240s)

and they're friends excuse me for fumbling as you were speaking just before we began reporting from the arena one of the oklahomans handed beth foui our producer a poem and it was uh composed right here in the arena while we were waiting we were on the air some two hours before this memorial began and this is the poem and if you will i want to read it it's titled the bomb that broke our hearts as i sit in the arena i still cannot comprehend i heard it felt it and seen it but yet i still don't understand i have yet to shed a tear i guess i'm numb and still in fear my heart still breaks for all the injured deceased and still missing i hope that today will help ease our pain no one will ever be the same as we unite this day for prayer it lets us know people all over the world really do care and it's signed very simply uh tim i don't know if you can see it but this poem is signed very simply a proud oaky i don't know who handed it to beth bowie but uh i'm going to treasure this the rest of my life well there are a lot of proud opie's here in this room and indeed in this state i think a lot of us were really moved when there was the rendition of the era clapton's on tears in heaven which of course refers to the loss of eric lampton and his child young child and it was a beautiful rendition that was done by kurt johnson and i also think bernie as as you pointed out the ernestine dillard rendition of god bless america i don't think irving berlin could have been more proud had he been here to hear her

03:26:00 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZm3riZryjE&t=12360s)

more proud had he been here to hear her sing that that final conclusion to this remarkable day chris martin there are many americans around the world not just americans have been touched by the tragedy here but i phrased this question this way intentionally to get your thoughts your thoughts i wonder what americans around the world are thinking and feeling as as they watch what has happened here in this arena at this memorial service well i think bernie that anyone watching would would have to feel first that the healing process has started a couple of the ministers you and both were talking to earlier said it's not so much the right words maybe there aren't any right words but it's the sense of coming together of community of city pride of state pride and you could you could see that happening in the hall so i think in that sense anybody watching from the rest of the country or from overseas would have to say well you know it was awful but but healing has started in another sense i think for americans living overseas this is a very disquieting look at the dark side of home it now seems as if this were the work of domestic terrorists it now seems as if the country is going to have to take a much harder look than it has so far and all of these shadowy extremist groups and americans sitting overseas reliable to be looking at one another saying i didn't really know we had that back home and it scares me for bruce morton and wolf blitzer i'm bernard shaw we're not going away we'll be back at the top of the hour our colleague lyndon soules and our editor

---

END